IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-36 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A controller for providing a subscriber database associated with a switch, said switch capable of handling call connections between calling devices and called devices on a plurality of trunk lines associated with said switch, and said switch capable executing call processing applications, wherein each of said call processing applications is associated with one of said call connections, said controller comprising:

N call application nodes capable of executing a plurality of subscriber database server applications that connect a subscriber database to a call connection, wherein a first subscriber database server application is executed on a first one of said N call application nodes and is associated with a similar second subscriber database server application executed on a second one of said N call application nodes separate from said first call application node, said first and second subscriber database server applications thereby forming a subscriber database load sharing group server application, and

wherein said each call processing application sends a subscriber database service request to said subscriber database load sharing group server application and said subscriber database load sharing group server application selects one of said first and second subscriber database server applications to perform said requested subscriber database service request according to a load distribution algorithm, and wherein said first subscriber database server application comprises a first

primary-backup group server application that includes a first primary subscriber database server application executed on said first call application node and a first backup subscriber database server application associated with said first primary subscriber database server application, said first backup subscriber database server application residing on a call application node separate from said first call application node.

2. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said load distribution algorithm distributes new subscriber database service requests in an alternating manner between said first and second subscriber database server applications.

3. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said load distribution algorithm distributes new subscriber database service requests according to a current call process load of said first subscriber database server application and a current call process load of said second subscriber database server application.

4. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said load distribution algorithm distributes said new subscriber database service requests in order to maintain said current call process load of said first subscriber database server application at a level substantially equal to said current call process load of said second subscriber database server application.

5. Cancelled.

6. (Currently Amended) The controller as set forth in Claim [[5]] 1 wherein state information associated with said first primary subscriber database server application is mirrored to said first backup subscriber database server application associated with said first primary subscriber database server application.

7. Cancelled.

8. Cancelled.

9. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said second subscriber database server application comprises a second primary-backup group server application, wherein said second primary-backup group server application comprises a second primary subscriber database server application executed on said second call application node and a second backup subscriber database server application associated with said second primary subscriber database server application.

10. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 9 wherein state information associated with said second primary subscriber database server application is mirrored to said second backup

subscriber database server application associated with said second primary subscriber database server application.

11. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said second backup subscriber database server application resides on said second call application node.

12. (Original) The controller as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said second backup subscriber database server application resides on a call application node separate from said second call application node.

13. (Currently Amended) A wireless network comprising:

a plurality of base stations capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations in a coverage area of said wireless network; and

a mobile switching center coupled to said plurality of base stations and to a public switched telephone network by a plurality of trunk lines, wherein said mobile switching center is capable of handling call connections between calling devices and called devices on said plurality of trunk lines, and wherein said mobile switching center is capable of executing call processing applications, wherein each of said call processing applications is associated with one of said call connections, wherein said mobile switching center comprises:

a controller for providing a subscriber database associated with said mobile switching center,

wherein said controller comprises:

N call application nodes capable of executing call process server applications, wherein a first subscriber database server application is executed on a first one of said N call application nodes and is associated with a similar second subscriber database server application executed on a second one of said N call application nodes separate from said first call application node, said first and second subscriber database server applications thereby forming a subscriber database load sharing group server application, and

wherein said each call processing application sends a subscriber database service request to said subscriber database load sharing group server application and said subscriber database load sharing group server application selects one of said first and second subscriber database server applications to perform said requested subscriber database service request according to a load distribution algorithm, and wherein said first subscriber database server application comprises a first primary-backup group server application that includes a first primary subscriber database server application executed on said first call application node and a first backup subscriber database server application associated with said first primary subscriber database server application, said first backup subscriber database server application residing on a call application node separate from said first call application node.

14. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said load distribution algorithm distributes new subscriber database service requests in an alternating manner

between said first and second subscriber database server applications.

15. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said load distribution algorithm distributes new subscriber database service requests according to a current call process load of said first subscriber database server application and a current call process load of said second subscriber database server application.

16. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said load distribution algorithm distributes said new subscriber database service requests in order to maintain said current call process load of said first subscriber database server application at a level substantially equal to said current call process load of said second subscriber database server application.

17. Cancelled.

18. (Currently Amended) The wireless network as set forth in Claim ~~17~~ 13 wherein state information associated with said first primary subscriber database server application is mirrored to said first backup subscriber database server application associated with said first primary subscriber database server application.

19. Cancelled.

20. Cancelled.

21. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said second subscriber database server application comprises a second primary-backup group server application, wherein said second primary-backup group server application comprises a second primary subscriber database server application executed on said second call application node and a second backup subscriber database server application associated with said second primary subscriber database server application.

22. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 21 wherein state information associated with said second primary subscriber database server application is mirrored to said second backup subscriber database server application associated with said second primary subscriber database server application.

23. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 22 wherein said second backup subscriber database server application resides on said second call application node.

24. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 23 wherein said second backup

subscriber database server application resides on a call application node separate from said second call application node.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a subscriber database associated with a mobile switching center, for ~~For~~ use in a wireless network comprising: 1) a plurality of base stations capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations in a coverage area of said wireless network; and 2) a mobile switching center coupled to said plurality of said base stations and to a public switched telephone network by a plurality of trunk lines, wherein said mobile switching center is capable of handling call connections between calling devices and called devices on said plurality of trunk lines, and wherein said mobile switching center is capable of executing call processing applications, wherein each of said call processing applications is associated with one of said call connections[[;]], the ~~a method for providing a subscriber database associated with said mobile switching center, said~~ method comprising the steps of:

providing N call application nodes within said mobile switching center, said N call application nodes capable of executing a plurality of subscriber database server applications;

executing a first subscriber database server application on a first one of said N call application nodes;

executing a second subscriber database server application on a second one of said N call application nodes separate from said first call application node, said first and second subscriber database server applications thereby forming a subscriber database load sharing group server

application;

sending a subscriber database service request from a call processing application to said subscriber database load sharing group server application;

selecting in said subscriber database load sharing group server application one of said first and second subscriber database server applications to perform said requested subscriber database service request; and

performing said requested subscriber database service request according to a load distribution algorithm, wherein said first subscriber database server application comprises a first primary-backup group server application including a first primary subscriber database server application executed on said first call application node and a first backup subscriber database server application associated with said first primary subscriber database server application, said first backup subscriber database server application residing on a call application node separate from said first call application node.

26. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 25 further comprising the step of distributing new subscriber database service requests in an alternating manner between said first and second subscriber database server applications.

27. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 25 further comprising the step of distributing new subscriber database service requests according to a current call load process of said first subscriber database server application and a current call load process of said second subscriber

database server application.

28. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 27 further comprising the step of distributing new subscriber database service requests in order to maintain said current call process load of said first subscriber database server application at a level substantially equal to said current call process load of said second subscriber database server application.

29. Cancelled.

30. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim ~~29~~ 25 further comprising the step of mirroring state information associated with said first primary subscriber database server application to said first backup subscriber database server application associated with said first primary subscriber database server application.

31. Cancelled.

32. Cancelled.

33. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 25 wherein said second subscriber database server application comprises a second primary-backup group server application, wherein

said second primary-backup group server application comprises a second primary subscriber database server application executed on said second call application node and a second backup subscriber database server application associated with said second primary subscriber database server application.

34. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 33 further comprising the step of mirroring state information associated with said second primary subscriber database server application to said second backup subscriber database server application associated with said second primary subscriber database server application.

35. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 34 wherein said second backup subscriber database server application resides on said second call application node.

36. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 35 wherein said second backup subscriber database server application resides on a call application node separate from said second call application node.